

# Deed for the Last Grant of Indian Land to English Inhabitants of the Sudbury Settlement July 1684 - May 1685

Massachusetts Land Records, 1620-1986  
Middlesex Deeds 1684-1693 • vol. 9-11, pp.344-352.

The follow is a new transcript of digitized records of a 1684 deed in the Middlesex Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Massachusetts.<sup>1</sup> The deed is for the third and last grant of Indian land to English settlers in Sudbury as a body.

A partial transcription of this deed exists in the 1891 *Annals of Sudbury*<sup>2</sup>. According to the *Annals*, this deed added two miles westward to the two prior land grants, totaling six miles. It was bounded by Concord on the north, Watertown (now Weston) on the east, and on the south, by Nobscott Hill along the Framingham and Sudbury boundary.

## How this transcription differs from the *Annals of Sudbury*:

Blocks of text omitted in the *Annals* are transcribed in full and are framed using dotted lines. This includes the text on pages 347 and 348, and all margin notes.

Spelling was not standardized in 1684, and there were often inconsistencies within the same document. However, where there are differences between the original handwritten record and the *Annals* version, bold face is used here to identify changes, such as certain names, dates, and abbreviations.

Additionally, for this version, effort was made to replicate the signatures or symbols used by the Indian signatories.

## Some conventions of the period:

In 1684, March was the first month of the year, not January. So, the month of May is the third month, and is seen in both forms on page 352.<sup>3</sup>

It was customary for the last word of text on one page to be written below the last line, and sometimes repeated as the first word on the following page.

The words *y<sup>e</sup>* and *y<sup>i</sup>* as used here are equivalent to the words *the* and *that*. The archaic form is the result of two conventions:

First, Anglo-Saxon language included the now-extinct “thorn or pörn (þ)” pronounced *th*, which has been rendered by printers using the letter *y*;<sup>4</sup>

Secondly, abbreviations frequently consisted of the first part of a word followed by one or two remaining letters written in superscript, for example, *y<sup>e</sup>* = the, and *s<sup>d</sup>* = *said*.

- Sandra L. Coy, transcriber, January, 2023

<sup>1</sup> *Massachusetts Land Records, 1620-1986 Middlesex Deeds 1684-1693 vol. 9-11, pp.344-352.*  
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q57-L9Z7-271Q?i=179&wc=MC1M-8ZS%3A361613501%2C364520901&cc=2106411>

<sup>2</sup> *The Annals of Sudbury, Wayland and Maynard, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, by Alfred Sereno Hudson, 1891.*  
<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=wu.89067489930&view=1up&seq=4&size=150>

<sup>3</sup> <https://libguides.ctstatelibrary.org/hq/colonialresearch/calendar>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.etymonline.com/word/ye>

**Deed for the Last Grant of Indian Land to English  
Inhabitants of the Sudbury Settlement  
July 1684 – May 1685  
in  
Massachusetts Land Records, 1620-1986  
Middlesex Deeds 1684-1693 • vol. 9-11, pp.344-352.**

Transcription by Sandra L. Coy, Wayland, Massachusetts, January, 2023

[Massachusetts Land Records page no.] 344  
Sudbury

[Margin note]

*Indians  
vs.  
Sudbury*

ffor as much as the Gen<sup>ll</sup> Court of this Massachusetts Colony in New England hath formerly granted to the Towne of Sudbury in the County of Middlesex in the same Colony, an addition of land of two miles westward of their former grant of five miles. which is also layd out & joyneth to it: and whereas the English occupiers proprietors and possessors thereof have chosen Cap<sup>t</sup>. Edmond Goodenow, Leif<sup>t</sup> Josiah Haynes, John Goodenow, John Brigham & Joseph ffreeman to be a

comittee

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for **them selves** & for all the rest of the English proprietors thereof giving them their full powr to [ink blot covering missing word] with & to purchase the same of the Indian proprietors of the s<sup>d</sup> Tract of land & to Sattisfy & pay them for their native ancient & hereditary right title & Intrest thereunto--

Know all people by these presents That wee, Jehojakim, John Magus John Muskqua & his two daughters Esther & Rachel, Benjamin Bohue, John Speen & Sarah his wife, James Speen, Dorothy wennaetoo & Humphry Bohue her Son, Mary Neppanum, Abigail the daughter of Josiah Harding, Peter Jethro, Peter Muskquamagh John Boman, David Mannoan & Betty who are the ancient native & hereditary Indian proprietors of the afores<sup>d</sup> two miles of land (for & in consideration of the just & full sum of twelve pounds

*for 12<sup>00</sup>*

of **curreant** mony of New England to them in hand well & truly paid at or before the Ensealing & delivery hereof (by the s<sup>d</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup>. Edmond Goodenow, Leif<sup>t</sup>. Josiah Haines, John Goodenow, John Brigham & Joseph ffreeman in behalfe of them

selves and of the rest of the English possessors, occupiers, proprietors & fellow purchasers) the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge & therewith to be fully Satisfied contented & paid & thereof and of every part & parcell thereof they do hereby for themselves & their

heys

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heys Executors Administrators & Assigns thereby fully & absolutely releases, acquitte exonerate & discharge them & all the English possessors occupiers proprietors & fellow purchasers of the same & all & every one of their heys Executors Administrators Assigns & Successors forever)

*Sell*

Have given, granted, bargained Sold, aliened, enseossed, made over & confirmed & by these presents do give grant bargain sell, alien, enseosse, make over,

*2 Miles of  
land in Sud-  
bury, west of  
y<sup>et</sup> old  
five Miles--*

confirme & deliver all that their s<sup>d</sup> Tract & parcells of lands of two Miles (bee it more or less **Scittuate** lying & being) altogether in one entire parcell in the s<sup>d</sup> Town of Sudbury in the County of Middlesex afors<sup>d</sup> & lyeth al along throughout on the westerne side of the old five Miles of the s<sup>d</sup>

*including W<sup>m</sup>  
Browns heirs  
farm*

Towne, & adjoyneth thereunto (together with the farme lands of the heys of William Browne that lyeth within the same tract, unto the s<sup>d</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup>. Edmond Goodenow, Leif<sup>t</sup> Josiah Haines, John Goodenow, John Brigham & Joseph Freeman & unto all & every one of the rest of the English possessors occupiers, proprietors & fellow purchasers thereof, as the same is limited butted & bounded on the East by the old part of the s<sup>d</sup> Towne of Sudbury (which was the five miles at first granted to the s<sup>d</sup> Towne) & is butted & bounded Northerly by the line or bounds of the Towne of Concord, westerly by the line or bounds of the Towne of Stow

& is

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bounded Southerly & partly westerly by the land of m<sup>r</sup> Thomas Danforth. All the lands within the s<sup>d</sup> bounds of Hills Vallies planes, Inter valls Meadows Swamps with all the Timber Trees, woods underwoods grass & Herbages, Rocks Stones, Mines Mineralls, with all Rivers Rivoletts, brooks, Streams Springs ponds & all manner of water courses for & whatsoever is therein & thereupon above ground & underground; with all rights members, tithes royalties, libertyes priviledges prosperity<sup>es</sup> appurtenances uses [profits? - inkblot] & commodityes thereof & every part & parcell thereof & that is every way due any wise & thereunto belonging & appertaining

*habendums*

To Have Hold use occupie, possess enjoy to the only absolute proppers use Benefitt, Behoofe and dispose of them that s<sup>d</sup> English possessers occupiers proprietors & fellow purchasers of the Towne of Sudbury & their heys Executors Administrators Assigns & Successors in a free full & perfect estate of Inheritance from the day of the Deed hereof & so for ever. And the abovenamed Indian Grantors do also hereby covenant promise & grant to & with the above-named Edmond Goodenow Josiah Haynes John Goodnow, John Brigham & Joseph Freeman & with all the rest of the English possessors occupiers, proprietors & fellow purchasers of the s<sup>d</sup> two Miles of land (bee it more or less) as above bounded that

at

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at the Ensealing & delivery hereof they are the only & absolute Indian proprietors of the premises, & that they (& none else) have just & Full powr in themselves the same they to sell convey confirme make over & deliver & they do hereby engage & bind themselves & their heys Executors Administraters & Assigns from time to time & at all times hereafter fully & sufficiently to preserve save harmless & for ever defend the hereby granted & bargained two miles of land (as is above bounded bee it more or less) with all the rights members & appurtenances there unto belonging, against all manner & singular other tithes Troubles charges demands & incumbrances that may be made or rays<sup>ed</sup> by any person or persons (especially Indian or Indians) else whatsoever lawfully having or claiming any right title or intrest in or to the premises in or to in part or parcell thereof to the troubles Vexations Charges Interruptions or Edjection of the above English possessors occupiers proprietors or fellow purchasers of the same or any one of them, theyrs or any one of their heys Executors Administrators or Assigns in his or their quiet & peaceable possession free & full use enjoyment or dispose thereof or any part or parcell thereof for ever

ffurthermore Wee the above named Indian Grantors do hereby oblige &

Engage

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engage ourselves all & every one of our heysr Executors Adm<sup>rs</sup> Assigns & Successors **with** the s<sup>d</sup> English possessors occupiers & proprietors & fellow purchasers & to all and every one of their heysr Executors Administraters and Assigns that wee & every one of us & ours as afores<sup>d</sup> Shall & will from time to time & at all times readily & effectually do (at our own proppor costs and charges) or cause to be so done any other or further act or acts thing or things that the law doth or may require for more Sure making & full confirming of all & singular the hereby granted premises unto the s<sup>d</sup> **Edm<sup>o</sup>** Goodenow, Josiah Haines, John Goodenow, John Brigham & Joseph ffreeman & unto all & every one of the rest of the English possessors occupiers proprietors & fellow purchasers of the premises & unto all & every one of their heysr Executors Administraters and Assigns for ever\_\_\_ In Witness whereof the abovenamed Indian Grantors have hereunto each for them selves & altogether sett their hands and Seals.

**11 July**  
**1684**

Dated the 11<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord God one thousand Six hundred Eighty & four

**Annoqs** Regni Regis Caroli Secundi xxxvi.

**Jehojakin** his **marke** x for himselfe

& by order of & for John Boman & Seale

John Magos for himself for & by order of & for

Jacob Magos his father x & Seale

**Mark=**


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**Muskqua** *John* & for his two daughters Rachel & Esther • & Seale

John Speen his marke | & for & by order of Sarah his wife & Seale

Abigail **being dter** of Josiah Harding and his Sole heyr  her marke and Seale

Sarah **L** her marke who is the widdow of Josiah Harding and mother of s<sup>d</sup>  
Abigail & her Guardian--

Peter Musquamog **X** his mark and Seale

Benjamin Bohow his **B** Marke & Seale

**Dorithy wenneto** hr **D** m<sup>ak</sup> & Seale

Mary Nepamun **hr D** marke and Seale

Betty her **J** marke & Seale

peter Jethro & a Seale

John **X** Boman his marke & Seale

James Speen & Seale

**Cambr** 15 Octob. 1684 All the persons that have signed & Sealed this  
Instrument appeared before me the day & year above written & freely  
acknowledged this writing to be their act and Deed

Daniel Gookin Sen<sup>r</sup> **Assist**<sup>5</sup>

Endorsement<sup>t</sup>

All the Granters of the Instrument within written beginning with Jehojakim & Ending with  
peter Muskquamog

did

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did Signe Seale & deliver s<sup>d</sup> Instrument in presence of us.

John Greene

James Bernard

Moreover wee underwritten did See **Benjamin** Bohew, Dorothy **wenneto** & Mary &  
Betty Nepanum signe Seale & deliver this Instrument the 15<sup>th</sup> day of Octo<sup>b</sup> :1684:

Andrew pittamee **C** his marke

**James Rumny marke**

Samuel Goff, James Barnard

Daniel Sacowambatt


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<sup>5</sup> Daniel Gookin, Senior's title was "Assistant", i.e., one of 18 Middlesex County Court Magistrates. He was associated with Rev. John Eliot as an advocate for the native people. Daniel Gookin, 1612-1687, in the Yale Native Northeast Portal <https://nativeneortheastportal.com/bio/bibliography/gookin-daniel-1612-1687>

Febr 1. **1684** Memorandum

Wee whose names are underwritten did see peter Jethro signe & Seale & deliver y<sup>e</sup> within written Instrument.

James **Bernard**

Stephen  Gates his  
marke

Peter Jethro Indian appeared before me the fifth day of February. 1684 & freely acknowledged this writing within to be his act & Deed & y<sup>t</sup> he put his hand & Seale thereunto.

Daniel Gookin Sen<sup>r</sup> **Assist**

John Boman did signe Seale & deliver the within written Deed the 23 : of February in the year [of] our Lord one thousand Six hundred Eighty and four in presence of us

John Balcom

✕ Samuel ffreeman his marke

James

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James Speen & John Bowman appeared before me in Court at Natick & acknowledged they have Signed & Sealed this Instrument among others. May.13<sup>th</sup>. 1684


Daniel Gookin Sen

**Assn<sup>t</sup>—**

Roxbury. April. 16. 85.

**Charls** Josias Sachem of the Massachusetts having read & considered the within written Deed with the consent of his Guardians & Councillors underwritten doth for himself & his heys allow of ratify & confirme the within written sale to the Inhabitants of Sudbury & their heys for ever the lands therein bargained & sold. To have & to hold to the s'd Inhabitants of Sudbury their heys and Assigns for ever & hath hereunto Set his hand & Seale the day above written:

Allowed by us

**Charls**  Josias

William Stoughton

his marke & Seale 

Joseph Dudley

Robert  **Momontage**

Guardians to

William W Ahowton

y<sup>e</sup> Sachem

Recorded. 19. 3. 1685

by tho: Danforth. Recorder